

January 24, 2011 - Legislative Breakfast  
Hillsborough, NC

The Orange County Board of Education held a Legislative Breakfast on the above date in the Board of Education offices located at 200 East King Street, Hillsborough, NC with the following business taking place:

Tony McKnight, Chair, welcomed attendees to the breakfast. Present: Tony McKnight, Chair; Donna Coffey, Vice Chair; Stephen Halkiotis; Anne Medenblik; Debbie Piscitelli; Brenda Stephens; Patrick Rhodes, Superintendent; George McFarley, Chief Operating Officer; Denise Morton, Chief Academic Officer; Donna Brinkley, Finance Director; Mike Gilbert, Public Information Officer; Representatives Verla Insko, Ellie Kinnaird, Bill Faison and Joe Hackney; 2 media. Board member absent: Eddie Eubanks.

Chair McKnight thanked legislators for taking the time to speak with board members. Legislators and board members engaged in discussion on agenda items included on the North Carolina School Boards Association legislative agenda to include: public school funding; new revenue; school technology – fines and forfeitures; sales tax refund/exemption; funding for the NC Virtual Public School (NCVPS); school construction; school calendar; school year length; funding the classroom; teacher performance pay; teacher contracts; state-level public education governance; school board fiscal accountability; 2010 changes to personnel records law; charter schools; tuition tax credits and vouchers for education; achievement gap; governmental immunity; collective bargaining; guiding principles.

Highlighted areas of discussion included: charter schools; governor’s budget; teacher contracts; state and federal mandates that come without funding; merger; school calendar; NC virtual public school funding cuts; alternative funding sources outside the education arena; state-level public education governance; school technology-fines and forfeitures; state sales tax; effective ways to convey the school district’s message to state leaders and the general public.

There being no further business, the breakfast meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_, Chair

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